

Clatsop County Harm Reduction

Hepatitis A Vaccination

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- ❖ Our initial plan was to provide Hep A vaccinations at our harm reduction outreaches, the warming shelter, the local recovery programs & at the free lunch site in Astoria
- ❖ We did not receive the additional grant to provide for the administration of the vaccines so we needed to scale back our initial plan and only provide the Hep A vaccinations to the outreaches we were already involved with which is our weekly harm reduction events
- ❖ We provided educational material regarding Hep A and also did an informal survey to see if we were to offer the vaccine free of charge if anyone would be interested. The response was overwhelmingly positive
- ❖ We were able to start bringing the Hep A vaccine with us the next 3 weeks and due to our warm, dry, fall weather conditions we were able to set up a mobile vaccine area next to harm reduction van

- ❖ We screened participants as we were obtaining our intake information for the needle exchange; we developed a half page consent form to sign and an administrative assistant input the vaccines in ALERT
- ❖ 15 Hep A vaccinations were administered
- ❖ We also offered Influenza vaccinations at 2 of the outreaches and to our surprise had more refusal of the influenza than Hep A vaccine
- ❖ We will repeat the outreach in 6 months and gave each person a card to remind them of their next injection due date
- ❖ There is a Homeless Connect event in Seaside in late January and we will be offering Hepatitis A vaccines at our booth

We felt that our initial Hepatitis A vaccine outreach as been a success. Talking with other counties offering vaccines at their harm reduction sites they have had a difficult time getting participants to agree to the vaccinations.

We feel that the trust that we have developed between us and the participants of the harm reduction program has helped us to be successful. Since we are a mobile harm reduction van the services that we are able to provide are limited. The administration of the vaccines were not difficult to incorporate into our outreach events.

Thank you